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09/639,740	08/16/2000	Alyssa Dver	1113-201	3381
30011 7590 04/20/2007 LIEBERMAN & BRANDSDORFER, LLC 802 STILL CREEK LANE GAITHERSBURG, MD 20878			EXAMINER RINES, ROBERT D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3626	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/639,740	Applicant(s) DVER, ALYSSA	
	Examiner Robert D. Rines	Art Unit 3626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 86,87,89,90,92,94-97,99-108,110-121 and 123-126 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 86,87,89,90,92,94-97,99-108,110-121 and 123-126 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

[1] This communication is in response to the amendment filed 8 January 2007. It is noted that this application benefits from the effective filing date of 16 August 2000. Claims 86, 100, and 111 have been amended. Claims 1-85, 88, 91, 93, 98, 109, and 122 have been cancelled. Claims 124-126 have been added. Claims 86-87, 89-90, 92, 94-97, 99-108, 110-121, and 123-126 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

[2] Claims 111-115, 117-121, 123-126 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waits et al. (United States Patent #5,721,831) in view of Johnson et al. (United States Patent #6,067,525).

As per claim 111 (currently amended), Waits et al. teaches an article comprising: a computer readable signal bearing medium (Waits et al.; col. 6, lines 17-19); a lead having associated contact information stored in said medium, wherein said lead is a customer targeted for a marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 4, lines 38-46); a plurality of stations in said medium, wherein each of said stations defines a status of said lead in said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 3 and col. 4); means in said medium for applying rules of said marketing campaign to

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said lead, wherein a station parameters is synonymous with a rule of said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; Figs. 2, 3, 4).

Waits et al. fails to teach Applicant's amended limitations pertaining to means for monitoring a lead within an assigned station of moving a lead to a previous, current, or subsequent station in response to user input.

However, Johnson et al. disclose means in said medium for monitoring a lead within an assigned station, wherein each station has a user assigned to manage leads therein (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-63, col. 19, lines 61-67, and col. 20, lines 1-7).

Johnson et al. further disclose means in the medium for managing said station user, including means for routing a neglected lead to a manager of said station user, wherein said manager is different from said station user responsible for said neglect (Johnson et al.; col. 8, lines 45-43, col. 19, lines 61-67, col. 20, lines 1-23, and col. 21, lines 1-29).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Waits et al. with those of Johnson et al. Such combination would have resulted in a user interface with a database that allows a bank to divide its customer database into segments, and to examine the response of selected segments to marketing strategies (Waits et al.; col. 1, lines 40-46). Additionally, such a system would have included a plurality of subsystems each corresponding to a phase of the sales process and further included an event

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manager to recognize the occurrence and context of sales events and initiate an operation in another subsystem to facilitate a new event in the sales process (Johnson et al.; col. 2, lines 21-34). Further, such a system would have included a sales management component to allow sales managers to access information from salespeople and allow the manager to manage sales activities including coaching and planning (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-55). Lastly, such a system would have accommodated team selling (i.e., multiple personnel) strategies (Johnson et al.; col. 20, lines 16-20). The motivation to have combined the teachings would have been to provide a sales force automation system which facilitates the sale of an item or service by intelligently integrating into a single system tools used by a sales person in the sales process (Johnson et al.; col. 1, lines 5-10). Further motivation would have been to provide a structured sale process for the salesperson by integrating best knowledge and expertise of an organization's best selling strategies and further to ensure that critical sales information and opportunity status is communicated between the sales personnel and management (Johnson et al.; col. 21, lines 3-12).

As per claim 112 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein the medium is selected from a group consisting of: recordable data storage medium, and a modulated carrier signal (Waits et al.; col. 6, lines 17-19).

As per claim 113 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein said customer is selected from a group consisting of: a current customer and a prospective customer (Waits et al.; col. 3, lines 19-26).

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As per claim 114 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein each of said plurality of stations in said medium includes a definition of required actions for an intended sale (Waits et al.; Figs. 10-12).

As per claim 115 (Previously presented), Johnson et al. teach an article further comprising a station master in said medium for monitoring said lead within said assigned station (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-63).

As per claim 117 (Previously presented), Johnson et al. teach an article further comprising an alert in said medium, wherein said alert is a communication to a designated user in response to neglect of said lead in said station (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-63, col. 8, lines 45-43, col. 19, lines 61-67, and col. 20, lines 1-23).

As per claim 118 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for generating a report to analyze progress of said lead through said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 5, lines 64-67).

As per claim 119 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for automatically generating said report at a predefined interval (Waits et al.; Fig. 10).

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As per claim 120 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for custom defining report parameters based upon a user selecting fields of said database for inclusion in said report (Waits et al.; col. 5, lines 64-67).

As per claim 121 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for custom defining a station parameter and applying said station parameter to said rule of said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 3 and col. 4).

As per claim 123 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein said marketing campaign has a goal selected from a group consisting of: sale of a product, sale of a services, and combinations thereof (Waits et al.; Figs. 3 and 8 *see claim 99).

As per (newly added) claim 124, Johnson et al. disclose an article further comprising means in the medium for routing a lead affected by said neglect to an alternate user (Johnson et al.; col. 8, lines 45-43, col. 19, lines 61-67, col. 20, lines 1-23, and col. 21, lines 1-29).

As per (newly added) claim 125, Johnson et al. disclose an article wherein said alternate user is responsible for mitigating negative impact of said neglect to said lead (Johnson et al.; col. 21, lines 1-29).

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As per (newly added) claim 126, Johnson et al. disclose an article wherein said manager is responsible for mitigating any damage to said lead in response to said neglect (Johnson et al.; col. 21, lines 1-29).

NOTE: Regarding newly added claims 124-126, Johnson et al., disclose facilitating best selling strategies. Examiner submits that this teaching accommodates the abstract concepts of mitigating negative effects and repairing damage to said lead.

Regarding claims 112-115, 117-121, 123, and 124-126 the obviousness and motivation to combine as discussed with regard to claim 111 above are applicable to those claims and are herein incorporated by reference.

[3] Claims 86-87, 89-90, 92, 94-97, 99, 100-108, 110, and 116 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waits et al. (United States Patent #5,721,831) in view of Johnson et al. (United States Patent #6,067,525) and further in view of Goss et al. (6,654,815)

As per claim 86 (Currently Amended), Waits et al. teaches an article comprising: a computer readable signal bearing medium (Waits et al.; col. 6, lines 17-19); a lead having associated contract information stored in said medium, wherein said lead is a customer targeted for a marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 4, lines 38-46); a plurality of stations in said medium, wherein each of said stations defines a status of said lead in said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 3 and col. 4); means in said medium for applying rules of said marketing campaign to

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said, wherein a station parameters is synonymous with a rule of said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; Figs. 2, 3, 4); means in said medium for removing said lead from said medium at a conclusion of said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; Figs. 21-23). Waits et al. fails to disclose means in said medium for managing activity of said lead by a user assigned to said station within an allotted time interval; and means in said medium for moving a lead to a station selected from a group consisting of: a subsequent station, a previous station, and a current station, wherein said station is determined in response to a reaction of said lead in a prior station.

Applicant has amended claim 86. As per the amended limitation, Johnson et al., disclose a modular lead management system that supports team selling including means in the medium for communicating an alert in the form of an electronic communication to a designated user in response to neglect, wherein neglect is associated with inaction of said user for said lead in said station and wherein said designated user is a manager responsible for mitigating said neglect (Johnson et al.; col. 8, lines 45-43, col. 19, lines 61-67, col. 20, lines 1-23, and col. 21, lines 1-29).

Johnson et al. fail to specifically disclose setting a defined time interval.

However, as is evidenced by Goss et al., the use of a timer or a preset or predetermined timing function to set trigger events related to customer or contact management is well known in the art (Goss et al.; col. 7, lines 26-67 and col. 8, lines 1-35, and col. 14, lines 20-40).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Waits et al. with those of Johnson et al. Such combination would have resulted in a user interface with a database that allows a bank to divide its customer database into segments, and to examine the response of selected segments to marketing strategies (Waits et al.; col. 1, lines 40-46). Additionally, such a system would have included a plurality of subsystems each corresponding to a phase of the sales process and further included an event manager to recognize the occurrence and context of sales events and initiate an operation in another subsystem to facilitate a new event in the sales process (Johnson et al.; col. 2, lines 21-34). Further, such a system would have included a sales management component to allow sales managers to access information from salespeople and allow the manager to manage sales activities including coaching and planning (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-55). Further, such a system would have accommodated team selling (i.e., multiple personnel) strategies (Johnson et al.; col. 20, lines 16-20). Lastly, such a system would have employed well known techniques such as the use of timer for ensuring prompt action on a lead (Goss et al.; col. 14, lines 39-41). The motivation to have combined the teachings would have been to provide a sales force automation system which facilitates the sale of an item or service by intelligently integrating into a single system tools used by a sales person in the sales process (Johnson et al.; col. 1, lines 5-10). Further motivation would have been to provide a structured sale process for the salesperson by integrating best knowledge and expertise of an organization's best selling strategies and further to ensure that critical sales information and opportunity status is communicated between the sales personnel and management (Johnson et al.; col. 21, lines 3-12). Further motivation would have been to be more responsive to customer requests and enable more effective customer

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interactions in an environment characterized by a high volume of transactions (Goss et al.; col. 1, lines 35-57).

As per claim 87 (Original), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein the medium is selected from a group consisting of: a recordable data storage medium, and is a modulated carrier signal (Waits et al.; col. 6, lines 17-19).

Claim 88 (Cancelled)

As per claim 89 (Previously Presented), Waits et al. teaches an article (of claim 86) wherein each of said plurality of stations in said medium includes a definition of required actions for an intended sale (Waits et al.; Figs. 10-12).

As per claim 90 (Original), Johnson et al. teach an article comprising a station master in said medium for monitoring said lead within said assigned station (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-63).

Claim 91 (Cancelled)

As per claim 92 (Original), Johnson et al. teach an article further comprising an alert in said medium, wherein said alert is a communication to a designated user in response to neglect of said lead in said station (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-63, col. 8, lines 45-43, col. 19, lines 61-67, and col. 20, lines 1-23).

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Claim 93 (Cancelled)

As per claim 94 (Original), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for generating a report to analyze progress of said lead through said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 5, lines 64-67).

As per claim 95 (Original), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for automatically generating said report at a predefined interval (Waits et al.; Fig. 10).

As per claim 96 (Original), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for custom defining report parameters based upon a user selecting fields of said database for inclusion in said report (Waits et al.; col. 5, lines 64-67).

As per claim 97 (Original), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for custom defining a station parameter and applying said station parameter to said rule of said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 3 and col. 4).

Claim 98 is cancelled.

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As per claim 99 (Original), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein said marketing campaign has a goal selected from a group consisting of: sale of a service, and combinations thereof (i.e. "Retain the Most Profitable...promote summit checking) (Waits et al.; Figs. 3 and 8).

Regarding claims 87, 89-90, 92, 94-97, and 99 the obviousness and motivation to combine as discussed with regard to claim 86 above are applicable to those claims and are herein incorporated by reference.

As per claim 100 (currently amended), Waits et al. teaches an article comprising: a computer readable signal bearing medium (Waits et al.; col. 6, lines 17-19): a lead having associated contact information stored in said medium, wherein said lead is a customer targeted for a marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 4, lines 38-46); a plurality of stations in said medium, wherein each of said stations defines a status of said lead in said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 3 and col. 4); means in said medium for applying rules of said marketing campaign to said lead, wherein a station parameters is synonymous with a rule of said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; Figs. 2, 3, 4).

Waits et al. fails to teach Applicant's amended limitations pertaining to means for monitoring a lead within an assigned station, moving a lead to a previous, current or subsequent station, and communicating an alert regarding neglect of a lead.

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Applicant has amended claim 100 further defining the plurality of stations. As evidenced by Johnson et al., sales/marketing management systems constructed as a plurality of stations in said medium, a first station in the medium to be managed by a first user and a second station in the medium to be managed by a second user, wherein said first user is different from said second user, and wherein each of said stations defined a status of said lead in said marketing campaign are well-known in the art (Johnson et al.; Abstract, col. 2, lines 21-55, col. 20, lines 16-23).

Applicant has further amended claim 100 by revising the previously presented limitation of a means for monitoring a lead within an assigned station. As per Applicant's revised limitation, Johnson et al. disclose a lead management system that includes and adding means in the medium for managing activity of said lead by said user assigned to said station (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-63, col. 19, lines 61-67, and col. 20, lines 1-7).

Applicant has further amended claim 100 to further define means for communicating an alert. As per Applicant's amended limitation, Johnson et al. disclose a modular lead management system that supports team selling and workgroup task assignment including means in the medium for communicating an alert in the form of an electronic communication to a designated user in response to neglect of said lead in said station, wherein said designated user is different from a user responsible for said neglect (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-63, col. 8, lines 45-43, col. 19, lines 61-67, and col. 20, lines 1-23).

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Applicant has amended claim 100 adding a new limitation. As per this newly added element, Johnson et al. disclose a modular lead management system that supports team selling and workgroup task assignment including means in the medium for reassigning said neglected lead to an alternate user including routing said neglected lead from said user responsible for said neglect to said alternate user for further action, wherein said neglected lead remains in said station prior to routing of said lead to said alternate user (Johnson et al.; col. 8, lines 45-43, col. 19, lines 61-67, col. 20, lines 1-23, and col. 21, lines 1-29).

Johnson et al. fail to specifically disclose setting a defined time interval.

However, as is evidenced by Goss et al., the use of a timer or a preset or predetermined timing function to set trigger events related to customer or contact management is well known in the art (Goss et al.; col. 7, lines 26-67 and col. 8, lines 1-35, and col. 14, lines 20-40).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined the teachings of Waits et al. with those of Johnson et al. Such combination would have resulted in a user interface with a database that allows a bank to divide its customer database into segments, and to examine the response of selected segments to marketing strategies (Waits et al.; col. 1, lines 40-46). Additionally, such a system would have included a plurality of subsystems each corresponding to a phase of the sales process and further included an event manager to recognize the occurrence and context of sales events and initiate an operation in another subsystem to facilitate a new event in the sales process (Johnson et al.; col. 2, lines 21-

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34). Further, such a system would have included a sales management component to allow sales managers to access information from salespeople and allow the manager to manage sales activities including coaching and planning (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-55). Further, such a system would have accommodated team selling (i.e., multiple personnel) strategies (Johnson et al.; col. 20, lines 16-20). Lastly, such a system would have employed well known techniques such as the use of timer for ensuring prompt action on a lead (Goss et al.; col. 14, lines 39-41). The motivation to have combined the teachings would have been to provide a sales force automation system which facilitates the sale of an item or service by intelligently integrating into a single system tools used by a sales person in the sales process (Johnson et al.; col. 1, lines 5-10). Further motivation would have been to provide a structured sale process for the salesperson by integrating best knowledge and expertise of an organization's best selling strategies and further to ensure that critical sales information and opportunity status is communicated between the sales personnel and management (Johnson et al.; col. 21, lines 3-12). Further motivation would have been to be more responsive to customer requests and enable more effective customer interactions in an environment characterized by a high volume of transactions (Goss et al.; col. 1, lines 35-57).

As per claim 101 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein the medium is selected from a group consisting of: a recordable data storage medium, and a modulated carrier signal (Waits et al.; col. 6, lines 17-19).

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As per claim 102 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein each of said plurality of stations in said medium includes a definition of required actions for an intended sale (Waits et al.; Figs. 10-12).

As per claim 103 (Previously presented), Johnson et al. teach an article further comprising a station master in said medium for monitoring said lead within said assigned station (Johnson et al.; col. 6, lines 49-63).

As per claim 104 (Previously presented), Goss et al. teaches an article wherein said means for monitoring a lead includes managing marketing activity of said lead by a user assigned to said station within an allotted time interval (Goss et al.; col. 7, lines 26-67 and col. 8, lines 1-35, and col. 14, lines 20-40 *see claim 86).

As per claim 105 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for generating a report to analyze progress of said lead through said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 5, lines 64-67).

As per claim 106 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for automatically generating said report at a predefined interval (Waits et al.; Fig. 10).

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As per claim 107 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for custom defining report parameters based upon a user selecting fields of said database for inclusion in said report (Waits et al.; col. 5, lines 64-67).

As per claim 108 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article further comprising means in said medium for custom defining a station parameter and applying said station parameter to said rule of said marketing campaign (Waits et al.; col. 3 and col. 4).

Claim 109 is cancelled.

As per claim 110 (Previously presented), Waits et al. teaches an article wherein said marketing campaign has a goal selected from a group consisting of: sale of a product, sale of a service, and combinations thereof (Waits et al.; Figs. 3 and 8 *see claim 99).

As per claim 116 (Previously presented), Goss et al. teaches an article wherein said means for monitoring of a lead includes managing marketing activity of said lead by a user assigned to said station within an allotted time interval (Goss et al.; col. 7, lines 26-67 and col. 8, lines 1-35, and col. 14, lines 20-40 *see claim 86).

Regarding claims 101-108, 110, and 116, the obviousness and motivation to combine as discussed with regard to claim 100 above are applicable to those claims and are herein incorporated by reference.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 8 January 2007 have been fully considered by the Examiner and are considered moot in view of newly added grounds of rejection.

In response, all of the limitations which Applicant disputes as missing in the applied references, including the features newly added in the 8 January 2007 amendment, have been fully addressed by the Examiner as either being fully disclosed or obvious in view of the collective teachings of Waits et al., Goss et al., and newly added reference Johnson et al. based on the logic and sound scientific reasoning of one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of the invention, as detailed in the remarks and explanations given in the preceding sections of the present Office Action and in the prior Office Action (6 July 2006), and incorporated herein.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert D. Rines whose telephone number is 571-272-5585. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:00pm Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached on 571-272-6776. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RDR

RDR 4/16/07

C. Luke Gilligan
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